

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A face sealing fitting includes two connectable  
tubular elements each having an annular end formation  
and a metal gasket including an outer annular section  
with a first axial dimension, an inner annular section  
concentric with the outer annular section and having  
a smaller axial dimension, and a tapered section  
having bevel faces between the inner and outer annular  
sections. Portions of the annular end formations  
10 which project axially the farthest beyond the tubular  
elements have a diameter substantially equal to the  
inner diameter of the inner annular gasket section and  
lie along the inner surface of the tubular elements to  
minimize dead volumes along the flowpath through the  
15 fitting.)

20 In some embodiments, the fitting is tightened  
from a first position, in which the inner diameter of  
the gasket is smaller than the inner diameter of the  
first and second tubular elements, to a second  
position, in which the inner diameter of the tubular  
gasket is equal to the inner diameter of the first and  
second tubular elements. In the second position, the  
fitting is in an optimal sealing condition, and there  
is zero dead volume in the flowpath.

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